

A Survey of Historic Sites in Rural Marion and Washington Counties, Kentucky

A Report on the Findings of the *Rural Heritage Development Initiative Survey*
A project funded by a National Park Service Preserve America Grant



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Cover: Top left: WS 630, John Best smoke house. Top right: MN 489, Bickett house/Raywick Jail. Bottom left: WS 95, barns. Bottom right: MN 926, Church/Bradfordsville Performing Arts Center

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Introduction

The Rural Heritage Development Initiative Survey began with the Rural Heritage Development Initiative (RHDI) itself. The RHDI is a three-year pilot project to implement preservation-based economic development strategies in eight Kentucky counties: Boyle, Green, LaRue, Marion, Mercer, Nelson, Taylor, and Washington. This Central Heartland region was one of two areas in the country selected nationwide for this exciting program. The RHDI is sponsored by Preservation Kentucky, the Kentucky Heritage Council (KHC), and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. It is funded through a grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation with matching funds from private donors and the local counties.

To help us better understand, protect, and market the historic resources of this region, we applied in 2006 to the Preserve America Program of the National Park Service for a grant to do rural historic sites survey in two of the counties of the RHDI area, Marion and Washington. These two counties were chosen because they had incomplete or out-of-date survey data. The survey grant was one of three awarded to Kentucky in March, 2006, when the first round of Preserve America grants were announced by honorary chair, First Lady Laura Bush. The valuable data gathered by this survey project will be of great benefit in future historic preservation planning efforts in the RHDI region. In fact, it is already being tapped to support projects in the region by a second, newly awarded Preserve America Grant that funds Survey, National Register and Heritage Tourism projects throughout the eight county RHDI area. It is hoped that the data from this project and report will be a useful reference tool as we move forward with preservation projects both within and outside of Marion and Washington counties.

Survey Methodology

The Rural Heritage Development Initiative Historic Sites Survey

The Rural Heritage Development Initiative's Historic Sites Survey was a far-reaching effort to create a record of rural historic resources in the Marion and Washington county area. Fieldwork began in September 2006 and continued until July 2007. In a typical week, the two-person

survey team spent three days in the field documenting historic properties and two days in the office coordinating the survey, entering data, and producing survey forms. Ultimately, the team drove more than 12,800 miles over the course of their work. Their efforts were augmented by the work of two University of Kentucky students and a hired, part-time assistant. The Site Identification Manager, the Survey Coordinator, the Restoration Projects Manager and the Site Identification Assistant at the KHC, students at St. Catherine's College and Teen Leadership of Washington County contributed additional fieldwork.

The base maps for the project were 7.5-minute, 1:24,000-scale quadrangle series United States Geological Survey maps. Each quadrangle map covers roughly 60 square miles. The two counties are divided into 18 quadrangles, many of which include portions of adjacent counties. Four quadrangles, two in each county, were surveyed comprehensively with the goal of documenting every potential historic resource forty years of age or older.¹ Time would not allow for complete coverage of both counties in this manner, so the approach to completing all the remaining quadrangles was to take a limited sample in each quadrangle. Based upon the time and fieldworkers available for the remainder of the project, the methodology for sampling was to drive all the principal roads within a given quad, noting on the map those sites that appeared to be forty years of age, or older. Based upon factors such as which sites showed the highest level of preservation, the accessibility of the sites, and the need for a fair representation of observed types of resources within the area, approximately 30-60 sites per quad were then chosen for inclusion. Previously surveyed sites were revisited in cases where additional information, such as the documentation of outbuildings, would add value to the earlier efforts.

In all, 1,427 new sites were documented, and 77 previously documented sites were revisited. Each of these sites has a principal resource - the house on a farm, for example - documented on a survey form (Figure 6). Most sites have additional resources such as barns, fences, or outbuildings. Over 600 of these resources, mainly barns, were documented on separate outbuilding forms. Thus, there are more than 2,000 survey forms for this project. Other supporting structures and objects were documented less intensively in inventories on the back side of the principal resource form (Figure 7), keyed to the site plan in the field notes, and to photographs on continuation sheets. This includes more than 3,000 cellars, cemeteries, wells,

¹ Fifty years of age is the official age required for a resource to be considered significant unless it is a more recent resource of "exceptional" significance, but using the forty year cut off date for the survey makes the effort a more useful planning tool over the following decade.

garages, corn cribs, detached kitchens, rock fences, silos, spring houses, stores, tenant houses, barns, etc. All of these are also listed as individual entries in our historic sites database (see below). Counting both surveyed sites and inventoried support resources documented or identified in the course of this project, over 5,000 historic resources that have been recorded in Marion and Washington counties. This documentation includes over 11,500 digital photographs stored on a server and back-up disks at the KHC offices.

The Kentucky Historic Resources Survey

Historic resources survey is an official record of historic sites recorded on survey forms that are compiled through fieldwork and research. The Federal Historic Preservation Act of 1966² (FHPA) requires states and territories across the nation to establish this record, calling for the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) to “conduct a comprehensive statewide survey of historic properties and maintain inventories of such properties.” By examining historic resources (buildings, structures, sites, and objects) gathering data from those examinations, conducting related research, and maintaining records of that research, the SHPOs establish the baseline data needed to make informed decisions about historic properties. States, including Kentucky, also inventory archaeological resources, preserving a record of both prehistory and the early historical period. In Kentucky, the archaeological survey is maintained separately by the Office of State Archaeology.

The KHC’s Historic Resources Survey program³ has been actively recording Kentucky’s historic places for over 40 years. Local volunteers with an interest in historic preservation carried out initial survey activities. In general, the first survey projects concentrated on historic resources associated with high architectural style, Kentucky’s wealthiest or most famous residents, and the oldest structures. In the 1970s, the KHC began a comprehensive statewide architectural survey conducted by professional architectural historians. Their focus shifted to a more comprehensive view of the cultural and historic resources that make Kentucky unique, now including resources such as barns, downtown commercial buildings, industrial sites, and vernacular houses. This more comprehensive approach began to expand our view of the state’s rich past; we have continued to widen our scope to encompass a rich and varied landscape of historic resources. To

² See (<http://www.nps.gov/history/local-law/nhpa1966.htm>),

³ The words “sites,” “resources,” or “inventory” are often used as synonyms for “survey” in this context, so one might find variations such as the “Kentucky’s Historic Sites Inventory,” etc.

date, the KHC, with the assistance of numerous local groups and many individuals, has documented over 80,000 historic sites, many of which contain multiple historic resources. These resources range from houses to battlefields to agricultural and industrial complexes to entire streetscapes of commercial buildings. They range in size from very small - a war monument or a highway marker - to quite large - a whole distillery complex or a lock and dam. They cover a broad historic period, from Kentucky's settlement period in the eighteenth century to the recent past.

The FHPA also established the National Register of Historic Places. Administered jointly by the National Park Service and the SHPOs, the National Register of Historic Places is the nation's official list of historic and archaeological resources deemed worthy of preservation. The National Register recognizes districts, landscapes, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture. The National Register is part of a federal program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate and protect our historic and archeological resources.

One of the main purposes of the Historic Resources survey is to guide us in determining what is and what is not eligible for the National Register. According to National Park Service guidelines, properties eligible for National Register listing must be at least 50 years old – or, if not, must be of exceptional importance; must possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association; and must meet at least one of four criteria for evaluation of significance:

- A. Properties that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. Properties that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C. Properties that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. Properties that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

The significance of a historic property can be judged and explained best when it is evaluated within its historic context. Historic contexts are those patterns or trends in history by which a specific occurrence, property, or site is understood and its meaning (and ultimately its significance) within history or prehistory is made clear.

The survey is used to help select resources for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. National Register listing establishes a site's eligibility for grants and tax benefits, and provides planning data for federal, state, and local projects. The survey helps us understand the context in order to make eligibility determinations. A site included in the Kentucky Historic Resources Survey may or may not be eligible for the National Register. Lacking adequate context, many of them are given "undetermined" status. Very early survey efforts in the state sometimes involved rejection of sites for inclusion. This did not mean that the survey *form* was rejected as incomplete or inaccurate, but that the *site or resource* was deemed unworthy to be part of the survey. However, it soon became clear that once field documentation of a site had taken place, and the survey form filled out correctly, that form became an official record to be maintained. If the site is judged to have insufficient historic significance or integrity to be eligible for the National Register, the form documents that decision. The record itself is a valuable resource. For many of these historic sites, however significant, the survey will be the only official record of their existence. For this reason, Historic Resources survey contains a valuable archive of Kentucky's historic built environment.

The reasons why a given site may be determined *ineligible* for the National Register are varied. In many instances, the property may be too heavily altered or too deteriorated to qualify: in other words, it lacks historic integrity. On the other hand, it still has historic information to offer. In other cases, the property type may not be sufficiently understood to determine its eligibility. Only through documentation can we begin to establish that understanding. A site's National Register nomination normally includes comparisons of the nominated property to others of similar type, some which may already be listed on the National Register, but others that are only documented in the survey.

The benefits of the Kentucky Historic Resources survey are far-reaching. For the KHC staff and professional consultants, the survey provides essential data to make historic preservation planning decisions. If, for example, a road-widening project is planned for a certain corridor

using Federal funds, the firm designing the roadway will hire a professional consultant to consider its impact on historic sites. The first place the consultant will turn is the Historic Resource survey files. The consultant uses the KHC's data to locate documented historic sites in or near the Areas of Potential Effect (APE) of the planned road. They also do further field work in the APE to document previously undocumented historic sites. They then can see how the project impacts the identified cultural resources, as required by the FHPA and the National Transportation Act.

For the general public, the survey files are also an important source. If someone is restoring a missing porch to a historic house of a particular period and style, for example, they can search the survey files for houses from the same period and style to find appropriate models for their design. A genealogical researcher may turn to the survey files for information about an ancestor's home. For more information about the Historic Resource Survey, please visit the Heritage Council's Survey website at: <http://www.heritage.ky.gov/natreg/histbldgsurv/>.

The survey files at the KHC are a unique and important archive. Currently, there is no backup copy of this archive, but the KHC has been exploring the possibility of scanning all the survey files and the hundreds of thousands of photographs that are in the Council's care. This would not only ensure the continued survival of the survey files, but would ultimately make them more available to the public. The successful completion of this urgent mission will require a source of funding for the creation of the digital copy of the Historic Sites survey files, as well as funds for its continued maintenance.

The Kentucky Historic Resources Survey Form

The individual survey form (see Figure 6 and Figure 7) is a single sheet of paper with information on both the front and the back, although the documentation for any given individual site may include continuation sheets and further forms for associated resources. Each survey form is identified by a unique survey number. Kentucky's survey site numbers, like those of many other states, are alphanumeric and include both a county prefix and a site number, such as MN 231 in Marion County or WS 476 in Washington County. Sites in some urban areas have another prefix in addition to the county prefix, such as MN-L 10, Saint Augustine's Church, in the town of Lebanon, in Marion County. For multiple resource sites, we use sub-numbers for the

individual resources. A typical example would be a farm with historic outbuildings and landscape features. In this example, a site plan would be sketched in the field notebook and each resource would be assigned a sub-number (see Figure 1: *Field Notes for WS 476.*). At site WS 476, for example, the main house is considered the principal building at the site and simply has the designation WS 476 (Figure 2). Outbuildings and other resources are sub-numbered. The well is recorded as WS 476.001, the cellar (Figure 191) is WS 476.002, the Brooder House (Figure 4) is WS 476.003, the meathouse (Figure 209) is WS 476.004, and so on. For this site, sub-numbers ascend to WS 476.013, a cistern. Not all of these elements are documented in detail on survey forms; some are simply photographed, noted on the back of the main survey form, and keyed to a site plan. More substantial or significant resources, however, have their own survey form. Nevertheless, they are all included in the Historic Sites database, discussed in detail below. The sub-numbering system arises from database needs, but for simplicity in this report, figures will refer to individual resources by the main site number. The survey forms are filed in order by county and site number at the Kentucky Heritage Council.

The site number is printed in the upper right hand corner of the survey form. In the case of Smock's Methodist Chapel (Figure 6 - Figure 9) is identified as MN 231. Also in the upper right hand corner is space for an evaluation of National Register eligibility. In the case of Smock's Chapel, the surveyor has put in the letter "D," which is a code for eligible. This is a recommendation made by the field surveyor: official determinations of eligibility are made by the SHPO. There is also a space to note (usually at a date later than the field survey itself) if the resource has been demolished or lost in some way. While the form employed for this survey project is an older version, recently revised, it remains substantially similar to the one employed today.

Below the heading on the left side of the survey form is a space for the name of the resource, Smock's Methodist Chapel, its address, and then its exact location as defined by Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) coordinates.⁴ In this survey, UTM coordinates were obtained by the use of a hand-held GPS unit. The form contains space for the owner's name and address, the name of the person or persons completing the form and their affiliation, the date the site was visited, and the sponsor of and reason for that visit (for instance was it surveyed as a grant project, or during an environmental review process).

⁴ For more information, go to <http://erg.usgs.gov/isb/pubs/factsheets/fs07701.html>

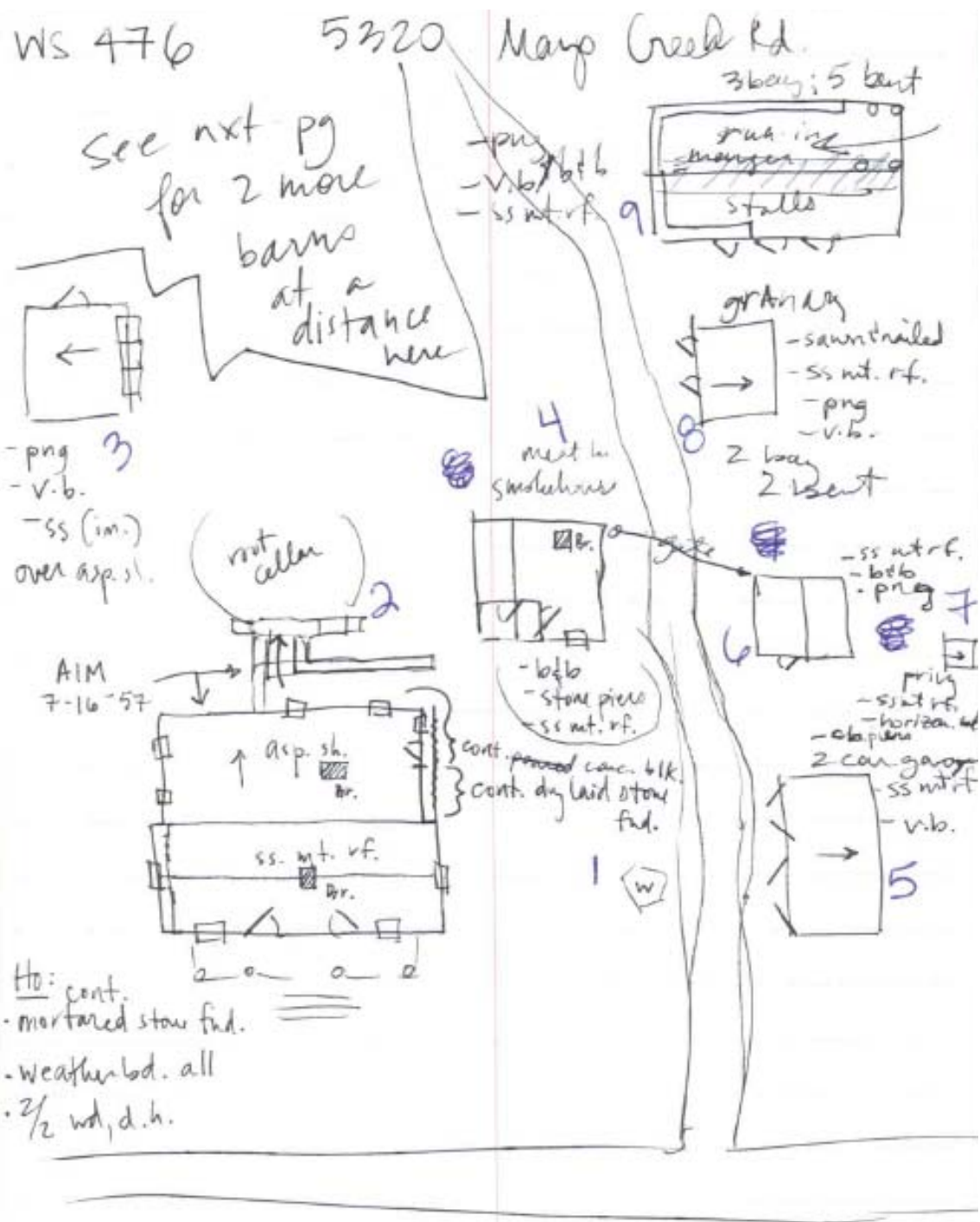


Figure 1: Field Notes for WS 476.

The categories on the form then turn to the resource itself. Surveyors must record the construction date, major modification dates, material, size, plan, style, foundation type and materials, exterior covering type, and condition. These categories are all coded entries selected

from the Historic Sites Survey Manual. A space for one or more photographs and some descriptive text follows.

The back of the form has space for a list of support resources, an annotated site plan, and a map showing the exact location of the site (Figure 7). For the RHDI survey forms, a copy of the site plan from the field notebook is attached on a continuation sheet (Figure 9). Extra photographs and information are found on continuation sheets (Figure 8). Further text, forms for associated resources, pictures, related correspondence, newspaper clippings, or copies of references may be attached to the form as well. Some of this material may be appended at a later date, such as copies of correspondence about the property



Figure 2: *WS 476, Main House, early twentieth century, Mackville vicinity. See Figure 3 for a site plan of the property.*

The Historic Sites Survey Database

Once survey forms are submitted to the KHC, they are reviewed by the Survey Coordinator, and then are entered into a database by the Data Coordinator. Each form, along with its data entries, is entered into the database by survey number. The database allows us to search the survey files

based upon chosen variables. For example, we can search for the name of the property, look for all properties constructed in a particular method and in a particular time period, or search for a historic owner's name. The database is also linked to a Geographic Information System (GIS) data layer, which enables searches for documented historic sites in a particular area. This is an important service provided by the KHC for review processes.

Kentucky Landmarks

The KHC is authorized to designate significant resources as Kentucky Landmarks at the owner's request. To qualify, a resource must be entered into the Historic Resources Inventory; must have significance in Kentucky history, archaeology, architecture, or culture; and must retain enough integrity of site, setting, location, design, materials, and workmanship to convey that significance to the modern viewer. The designation is accompanied by a certificate, signed by the Governor and suitable for framing, which is awarded to the owner. The certificate states that the property is a Kentucky Landmark, and worthy of preservation. The Council believes that the designation of historic properties as Kentucky Landmarks helps to spur interest in and commitment to their preservation on the part of owners. The owner's property rights are not restricted in any way when their property receives a Landmark Certificate. Any property listed on the National Register of Historic Places is eligible for a Kentucky Landmark Certificate, but listing is not required. If you are the owner of a property included in this survey or another historic property and are interested in receiving a Kentucky Landmark Certificate, please contact the Survey Coordinator at the KHC for further information.

Fieldwork

The RHDI survey of Marion and Washington Counties was primarily a field-based project. Documentary research is an important, but time-consuming aspect of historic sites survey, which is generally conducted more extensively for National Register nominations. Archival documents such as deeds, wills, inventories, local histories, diaries, street directories, and census records have a great deal to tell us about the historic resources they are associated with, but the understanding of historic resources requires looking at them in the field. The resource (the historic building, structure, object, or site) is a document of history. The understanding and appreciation of historic places comes from first-hand experience (Figure 5). Archival documents

are crucial to understanding the context of a historic resource, but they are often mute about the resource itself. Deeds, for example, rarely mention the buildings present on the land they describe. So, to figure out the construction date of a house, for example, requires careful examination of the structure.

The fieldworker must be cautious not to prejudge a given resource in the field, but to document it as objectively as possible. Certainly there is no escaping the fact that some historic resources are more interesting than others, and these will vary with the person doing the fieldwork. Often, a relatively plain and humble resource documented in KHC survey files will turn out to have historic significance discovered in later research. Examples might include a house that turns out to have served as the residence of an important person, or was purchased from a catalog, or played a role in an important battle. Fieldwork is an essential part of the process of our appreciation of historic sites, but it is just the start of that process, not its completion.

Survey is a great learning experience that all historic preservation professionals should have. The best way to learn about historic resources is to look at a lot of them, and the best opportunity to do that comes in the survey process. Survey tells us not only about the physical nature of historic resources - how they are built, how they are altered over time, how they deteriorate or are restored – but also about history itself. Careful examination of old houses and the organization of domestic spaces within them, for example, gives us details about daily life in the past that are not always available from written records. When resources cannot be saved, survey documentation provides a record of that history for posterity.

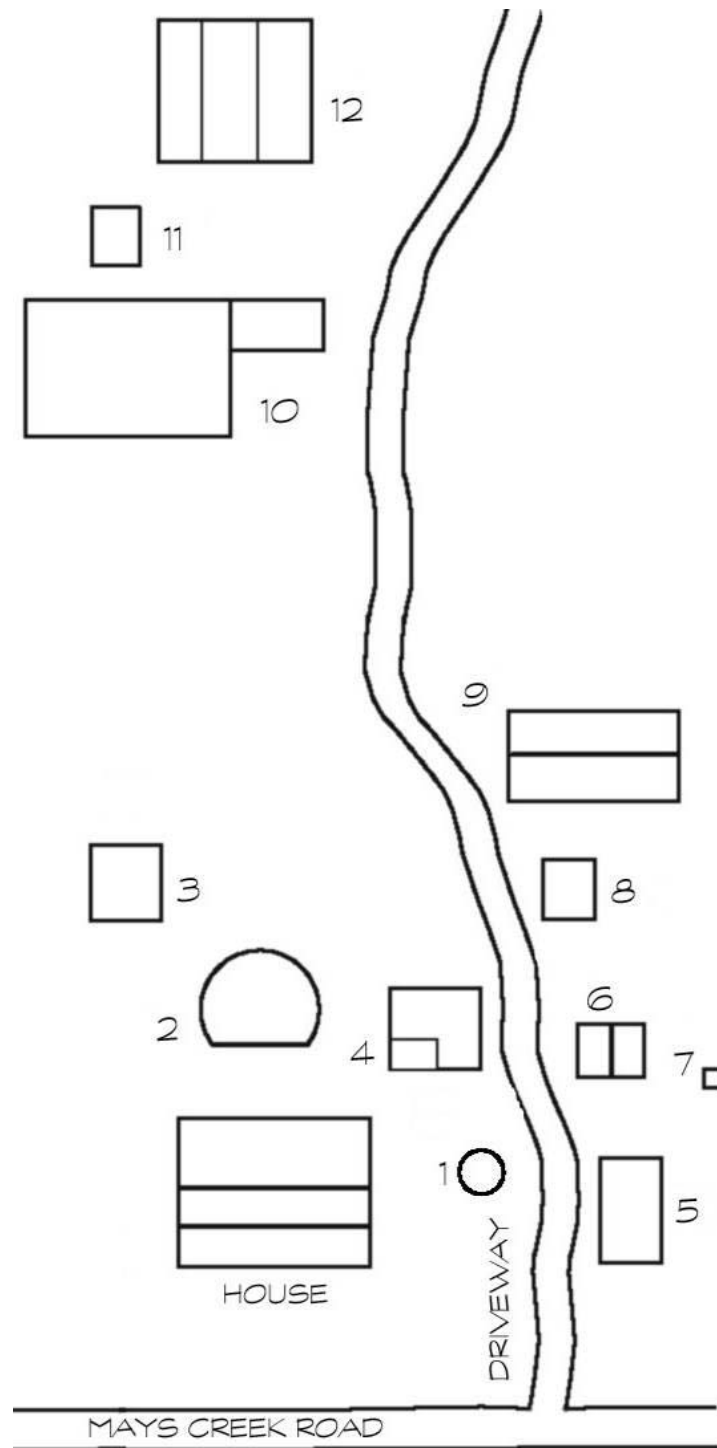


Figure 3: *WS 476, Site Plan. House (Figure 2), 1) Well (Figure 231), 2) Cellar (Figure 191), 3) Brooder House (Figure 4), 4) Meathouse (Figure 209), 5) Garage (Figure 224), 6) Shed or Shop (Figure 216), 7) Privy (Figure 185), 8) Granary (Figure 310), 9) Stable (Figure 265), 10) Tobacco Barn with Stripping Shed (Figure 286), 11) Poultry House (Figure 292), 12) Multi-purpose Stock/Tobacco Barn (Figure 260). Domestic outbuildings cluster around the house and agricultural outbuildings are set some distance away. (Illustration Bill Macintire, based on field notes by Danae Peckler and Jenn Ryall, 1/30/2007).*



Figure 4: *WS 476, Brooder House, mid-twentieth century, Mackville vicinity.*




Figure 5: WS 972, Cooksey House, central chimney double pen, mid-late nineteenth century, Willisburg vicinity. The resource itself is a document of the past.

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES

INDIVIDUAL SURVEY FORM (KHC 91-1)

COUNTY Marion
RESOURCE # MN 231
RELATED GROUP #
INTENSIVE DOC. ☐
EVALUATION D
DESTROYED

For instructions, see the [Kentucky Historic Resources Survey Manual](#)

1. NAME OF RESOURCE (how determined): 5 Smock's Methodist Chapel				19. FOUNDATION: <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>TYPE</th> <th>MATERIAL</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1 piers</td> <td>A cut stone</td> <td>original</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0 unknown/not ap</td> <td>0 unknown/not applicabl</td> <td>replacement</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				TYPE	MATERIAL		1 piers	A cut stone	original	0 unknown/not ap	0 unknown/not applicabl	replacement
TYPE	MATERIAL															
1 piers	A cut stone	original														
0 unknown/not ap	0 unknown/not applicabl	replacement														
2. ADDRESS/LOCATION: Holy Cross Road (near split for Hwy 152) Loretto, KY				20. PRIMARY WALL MATERIAL: <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>I weatherboard</td> <td></td> <td>original</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Y vinyl siding</td> <td></td> <td>replacement</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				I weatherboard		original	Y vinyl siding		replacement			
I weatherboard		original														
Y vinyl siding		replacement														
3. UTM REFERENCE: Quad. Name: Loretto Date: 1953 Zone: 16 Easting: 641026 Northing: 4168581 Accuracy:				21. ROOF CONFIGURATION/COVERING: <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>CONFIGURATION</th> <th>COVERING</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>B gable, front</td> <td>0 undetermined/n.a.</td> <td>original</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0</td> <td>7 standing seam metal</td> <td>replacement</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				CONFIGURATION	COVERING		B gable, front	0 undetermined/n.a.	original	0	7 standing seam metal	replacement
CONFIGURATION	COVERING															
B gable, front	0 undetermined/n.a.	original														
0	7 standing seam metal	replacement														
4. OWNER/ADDRESS				22. CONDITION: F fair-under maintained												
5. FIELD RECORDER/AFFILIATION Jenn Ryall and Danae Peckler, KHC				23. MODIFICATION: 1 little or no alteration, historic fabric largely intact												
6. DATE RECORDED: 11/28/2006				24. NEGATIVE FILE #: Write resource # on back of all prints.												
7. SPONSOR: Preserve America																
8. INITIATION: 5 Other RHDI Survey																
9. OTHER DOCUMENTATION/RECOGNITION: <input type="checkbox"/> Survey <input type="checkbox"/> HABS/HAER <input type="checkbox"/> KY Land <input type="checkbox"/> Local Land <input type="checkbox"/> NR <input type="checkbox"/> R and C <input type="checkbox"/> NHL Other:																
10. ORIGINAL PRIMARY FUNCTION: 06A church/religious structure																
11. CURRENT PRIMARY FUNCTION 99V vacant/abandoned				COMMENTS/HISTORICAL INFORMATION: This is the Smock's Methodist Chapel (now Smock's Chapel Mission). This church appears in its current location on the 1877 Beers Map of Washington and Marion Counties. The church was likely built in the mid-to-late 1800s. Evidence for this is also in the building's style. It has both Greek Revival and Gothic Revival elements. Its returned gable ends, front gable roof configuration, and bands of trim in the gables are Greek Revival features. The Gothic Revival feature is the decorative vergeboard on the front façade. The building has a brick chimney to the right side about 2/3 toward the rear of the building. We talked to one man in Marion County who went to school here. There were four windows on the eave ends of the building. The church is associated with a cemetery.												
12. CONSTRUCTION DATE: 5 1875-1899 estimated documented																
13. DATE OF MAJOR MODIFICATIONS: 1 1975-2000 partially vinyl sided, orig windows boarded/ruvd? 1 1975-2000 poured concrete ramp to front doors (added storms)																
14. CONSTRUCTION METHOD/MATERIAL: W3 frame construction, type unknown original subsequent																
15. DIMENSIONS: Height 1.5 story Width 3 bay Depth 4 bay																
16. PLAN: O other (specify) church, central aisle first second third																
17. STYLISTIC INFLUENCE: 31 Greek Revival 32 Gothic Ra first second third																
18. STYLE DEVELOPMENT: P first second third																

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Figure 6: Front of Historic Sites Survey Form for MN 231, Smock's Methodist Chapel. See Figure 24 for a larger picture of the building.

25. SUPPORT RESOURCES:

<u>SITE PLAN KEY</u>	<u>FUNCTION</u>	<u>CONSTRUCTION DATE</u>	<u>METHOD/MATERIAL</u>
1	Smock's Chapel Cemetery		

26. SITE PLAN (Complete if #25 was answered).



27. MAP.

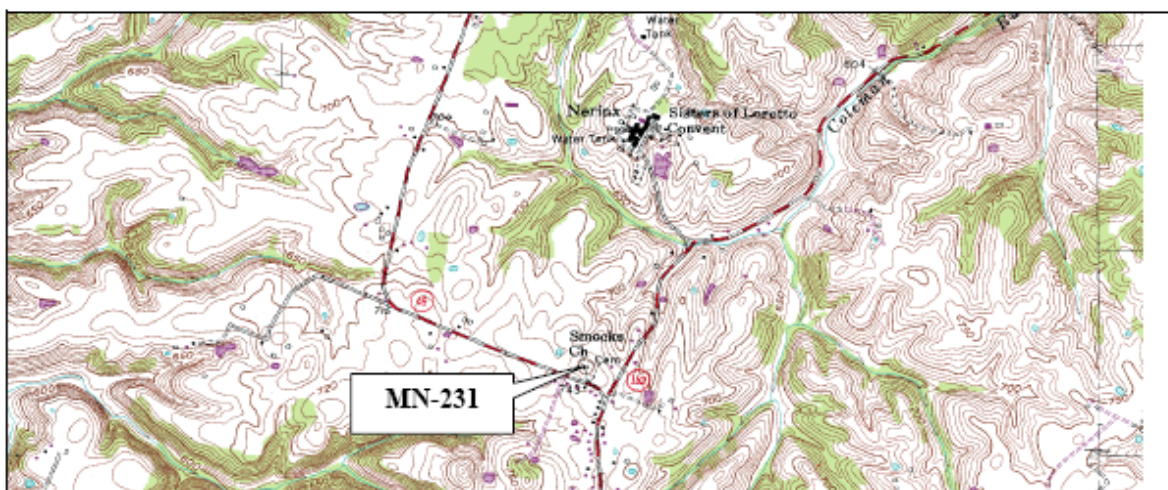


Figure 7: Back of the MN 231 Survey Form. The Site Plan is on a Continuation Sheet, Figure 9.

COUNTY Marion
RESOURCE # MN 231
GROUP # _____
IDENTIFICATION _____ INTENSIVE
CATEGORY #'s _____
PAGE _OF _____ PAGES

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES
CONTINUATION SHEET
(KHC 91-4)



This is a rear/left side photo of Smock's Chapel.



These are the entrance posts (made of coral heads) to Smock's Chapel. They are located to the front.



1. This is a photo of the cemetery at Smock's Chapel. It is quite extensive and contains early to mid-19th century graves.



1. This is the oldest gravestone we could find in the cemetery. It appears to read "Raphael Gardiner DIED Jan 16, 1846 . . ."

Figure 8: Continuation Sheet for MN 231.

MN-231

SMOCK CHAPEL MISSION

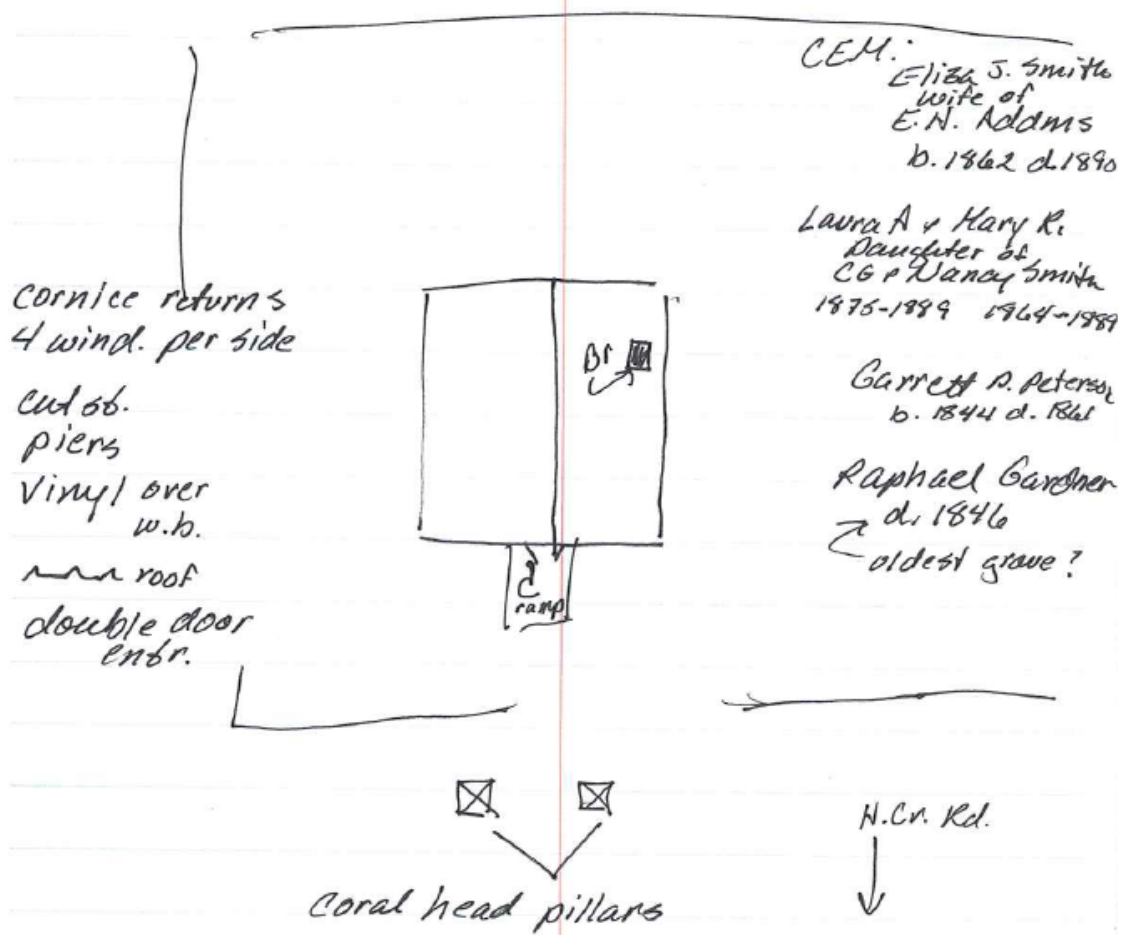


Figure 9: Field Notes for MN 231.

Survey Results

Overview

The Region and the People

Marion and Washington Counties are adjacent to one another and located in the Outer Bluegrass of Central Kentucky, in a hilly area also known as the Knobs (Figure 10). Washington County (Figure 11) was formed in 1792 (the year Kentucky became a state) from Nelson County, which is now located northwest of Washington County. When it was formed, Washington included all of present day Anderson County, which broke off in 1827, and Marion County (Figure 12), which was formed in 1834.⁵ As the last piece of territory to be divided off of Washington County, Marion County has a long history with Washington. Both counties share a similar topography of fertile farms and pastures interspersed among the numerous knobs and hills. They also share an agrarian identity that continues today: in 1992, 82 percent of Marion County's land mass was occupied in agriculture,⁶ while farms in Washington County occupied slightly more.⁷

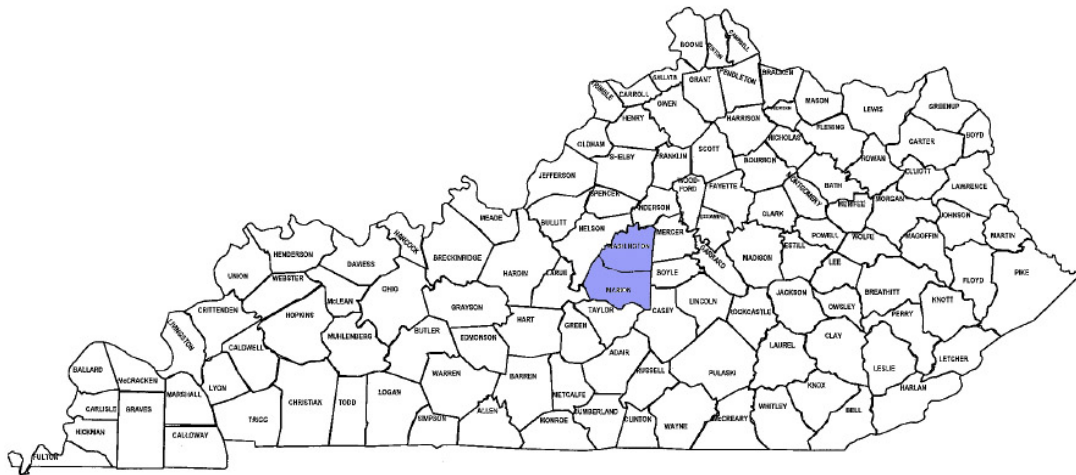


Figure 10: Map showing location of Washington and Marion Counties in Kentucky.

Although European settlers entered the region in the 1770s, no standing structures from earlier than 1800 were found in the current survey. Most early structures were either impermanent or demolished and replaced in the nineteenth century. The second generation of settlers (beginning around the 1790s) brought farmers who were attracted to the available arable land for sale.

⁵ John E. Kleber, ed., *The Kentucky Encyclopedia* (Lexington: University of Kentucky Press, 1992), 609.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Richard Ulack, ed., *Atlas of Kentucky* (Lexington: University of Kentucky Press, 1998), 158.

Scotch-Irish Presbyterian immigrants came from Virginia's Shenandoah Valley and the Carolinas, while Methodists and Baptists came from Pennsylvania and Virginia. One of the strongest influences on the development of the region was the mass immigration of Catholics from Maryland.⁸ By 1790, additional Catholics emigrated from North Carolina and East Tennessee.⁹ Catholicism continues to influence the area today with 40 to 59 percent of Marion County and 20 to 40 percent of Washington County residents being Catholic Church members, in contrast to the state average of 7.4 percent of the population.¹⁰ African-Americans, most of them slaves, also made up an important element of the early population. Although slaveholding in the Washington and Marion County area was not as prevalent as in the central Bluegrass region, slaves constituted nearly 25 percent of the population of Washington County in the 1830 census (which then included present day Marion County), with 4,714 slaves in a total population of 19,017.¹¹

The Resources

The principal focus of the 2006/2007 RHDI survey of historic resources in Marion and Washington Counties was the extant rural, agricultural landscape. This landscape consists principally of farms and homes, but also includes public buildings, churches, cemeteries, industrial sites, stores, bridges, and roads. The construction dates of the documented resources are heavily concentrated in the late-nineteenth through mid-twentieth century (Figure 13). Houses were the most common resource surveyed with nearly a thousand examples. Most of these houses have support resources. For example, meat and smoke houses (143 documented), are quite common, as are chicken houses (125 poultry-related resources). Other types of resources found in large numbers included 40 workshops, 43 dairy barns, 74 silos, 95 root cellars, 96 corn cribs, 128 stock barns, 251 tobacco barns, 469 garages, 362 multi-purpose barns, nearly 500 wells and cisterns, and 703 buildings identified as "sheds." Other resources documented in smaller numbers, included tenant houses, slave houses, kitchens, ice houses, offices, spring houses, and cemeteries. Beyond houses and farms, the documented historic sites include 34 churches, 26 stores, 19 schools, and 12 bridges, along with a number of other

⁸ Orval W. Baylor, *Early Times in Washington County Kentucky* (Cynthiana, KY: Boston Press, 1942), 2.

⁹ Marion County Historical Society, *History of Marion County, Kentucky*. Vol. 1, 77.

¹⁰ Ulack, 73.

¹¹ "Abstract of the Returns of the Fifth Census..." (Washington, D.C.: Duff Green, 1832), 26. Available online: <http://www2.census.gov/prod2/decennial/documents/1830a-01.pdf>.

resources such as post offices, restaurants, warehouses, lodges, fire stations, industrial buildings, and monuments.

It is beyond the scope of this report to discuss each and every one of these sites. The complete survey files and data are available at the KHC and more information will be made available on the web in the future. Since the principal focus of the survey was upon rural and agricultural resources, this report will explore in depth what emerges as the most characteristic property types of that landscape: houses, agricultural support resources, churches, and especially farms. The discussion of houses will be broad, including residential structures in both rural communities and the surrounding countryside.

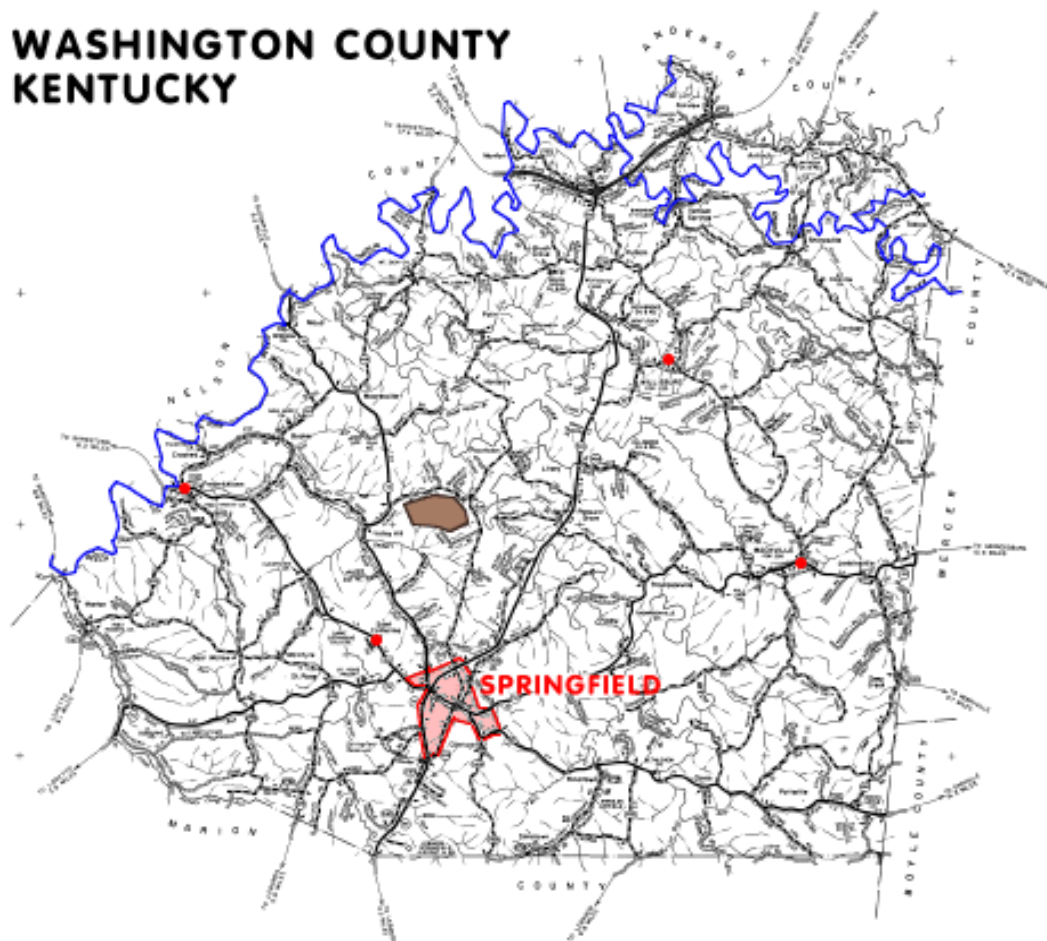


Figure 11: Map of Washington County. The highlighted area north of Springfield is the Lincoln Homestead State Park. The Northwestern boundary of the county is the Beech Fork. Source: Kentucky Atlas & Gazetteer (<http://www.uky.edu/KentuckyAtlas/kentucky-atlasc.html>).

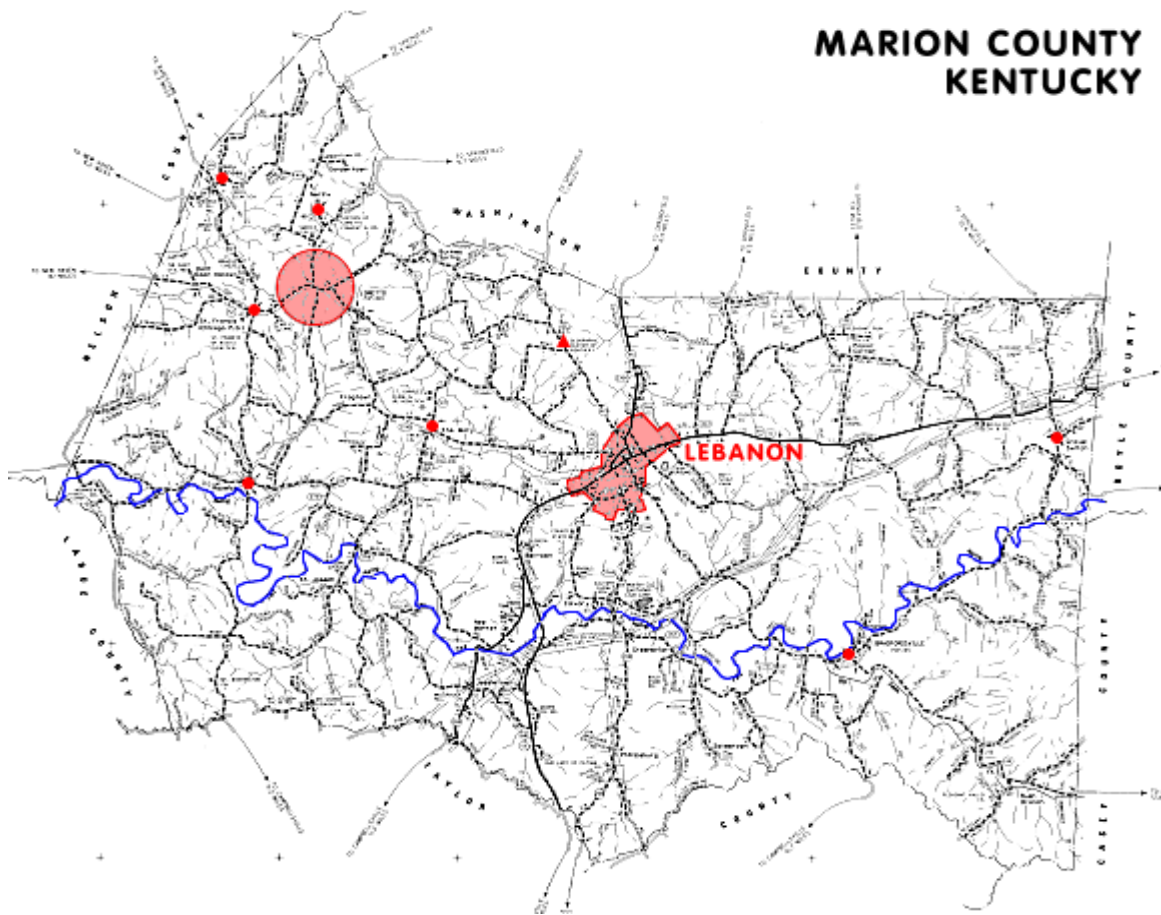


Figure 12: Map of Marion County. Loretto is highlighted at upper left. The river meandering through the bottom half of the county is the Rolling fork. Source: Kentucky Atlas & Gazetteer (<http://www.uky.edu/KentuckyAtlas/kentucky-atlasc.html>).

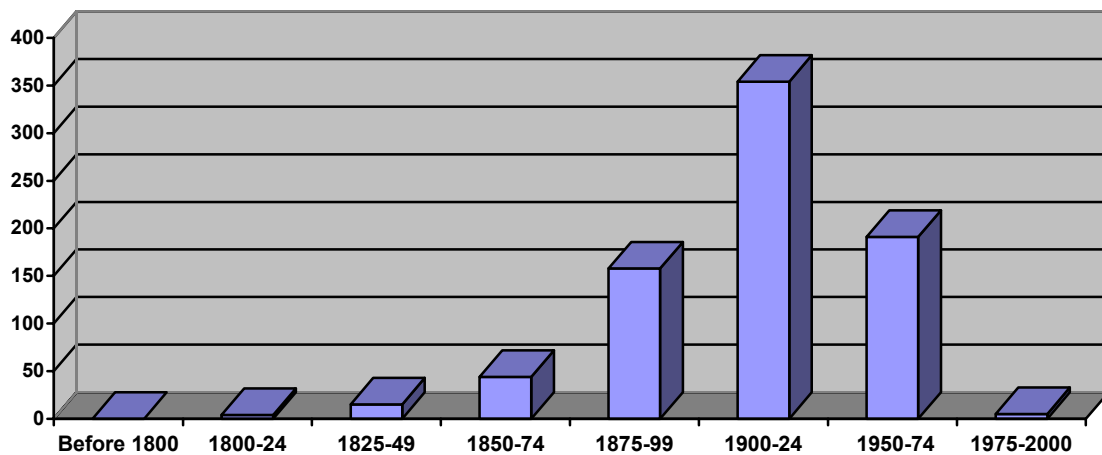


Figure 13: Number of resources documented by date range.